



JOSEPH A. CONNOLLY
TREASURER

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS COUNTY OF NORFOLK

The County of Presidents



Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

May 17, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

For the past several years, while serving as the Norfolk County Treasurer, I have been in a great position to take stock of the economic growth of the area. Norfolk County is a beautiful and diverse area of Massachusetts with a wealth of unique businesses and engaged citizens. From the edge of Boston to the border of Rhode Island, Norfolk County is poised to grow and prosper for decades to come. We must keep in mind, however, that there is always room for improvement.

AT&T's announcement that it was looking to merge with T-Mobile was met with a range of responses. I am proud to say that I was open to the prospect and saw some of the benefits that it could provide. AT&T's plan to merge with T-Mobile will be beneficial for businesses as well as consumers in Norfolk County.

The impressive increase in coverage to nearly 97% of all Americans will mean that virtually every household and business will have instant access to high-speed broadband technology. This will open up new markets for businesses and decrease the digital divide that exists amongst some of our more secluded communities. The additional \$8 billion in private investments will also do wonders for the nation's economy at no extra cost to the taxpayers.

In addition to boosting our economy, helping our businesses, and benefiting our consumers, the merger will also provide an extra resource for our schools, labor unions, and underserved communities. Schools will have access to state of the art education tools we never thought possible, and underserved communities will experience the same benefits of broadband access that some of our more fortunate communities already have.

As the approval process for the AT&T merger gets underway and you are given a chance to make your decision, I ask that you to come out in support of this merger and the good things it will do for Norfolk County.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to voice my opinion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Joseph Connolly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Connolly".

Joseph Connolly
Treasurer
Norfolk County, MA

CC:

Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker